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A GUIDE TO THE CHANGES IN ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS
OF THE USSR, INCLUDING AREA AND
POPULATION FIGURES

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A GUIDE TO THE CHANGES IN ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS
OF THE USSR, INCLUDING AREA AND
POPULATION FIGURES

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Preface

One of the many difficulties encountered by those who deal with Soviet statistics is the fluidity of the territorial-administrative structure. Not only are the names of the territorial sub-divisions frequently changed, but their boundaries change also. This introduces numerous complications into any statistical comparisons relating to particular regions in the USSR, and unless the student is aware of the changes in the statistical base, may lead him into serious error. Thus, a comparison of textile production in the Moscow Oblast in 1930 with that in 1939 would lead to an erroneous conclusion, since in 1935 and again in 1937 parts of the original Moscow Oblast were detached to form new oblasts. The problem is still further complicated by the practice of creating new administrative areas out of parts of two or more existing areas rather than by the simple partition of one existing area into two or more new administrative areas. 1/

This Guide is an attempt to record the partitioning and frequent repartitioning of the Soviet Union into administrative subdivisions. In setting down the historical sequence of changes that have been made in the boundaries and organization of these units, the point of departure has been -- except in the case of the Union Republics and the Autonomous Republics -- the date of organization of an area as a krai or oblast. Changes have been recorded up until the first week in May 1943. Only major repartitionings have been included, for minor adjustments of boundaries are not only unimportant in most cases, but have been so frequent as to render the task of compiling a complete record of them too difficult for the time available. The figures for areas are in square miles as of May 1940, unless otherwise indicated. The population figures, except where other dates are given, are based on the census of 1939. When population figures for administrative centers are not given, the town in question had in most cases a population of less than 50,000 at the time of the last census.

The index lists, with page references, all the territorial subdivisions, regardless of category, in alphabetical order.

Attached to the Guide is a chart which shows the territorial-administrative structure of the USSR in terms of the administrative units in existence on 1 May 1943.

1/ For a general discussion of the theory of Soviet "regionizing" see J. A. Morrison, "The Evolution of the Territorial-Administrative System of the USSR", The American Quarterly on the Soviet Union, October 1938.

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Abbreviations and Symbols

- SSR - Sovetskaya Sotsialisticheskaya Respublika
(Soviet Socialist Republic)
- SFSR - Sovetskaya Federativnaya Sotsialisticheskaya Respublika
(Soviet Federative Socialist Republic)
- ASSR - Avtonomnaya Sovetskaya Sotsialisticheskaya Respublika
(Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic)
- A.O. - Avtonomnaya Oblast
(Autonomous Oblast)
- N.O. - Natsionalny Okrug
(National Okrug)
- Est. - Established
- Adm. c. - Administrative Center
- Pop. - Population
- [] - Enclosing a territorial unit within brackets indicates
that it is no longer in existence.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS — USSR

(Soyuz Sovetskikh Sotsialisticheskikh Respublik — SSSR)

Area: 8,372,400 sq. miles (as of December 1940)
Pop.: 193,000,000 (as of December 1940)
Capital: Moscow

Est. 30 December 1922 by the unification of the RSFSR, the Ukrainian SSR, the White Russian SSR and the Trans-Caucasian SFSR (the latter including the Azerbaidzhan SSR, the Armenian SSR, and the Georgian SSR). In 1925 two new union republics — the Uzbek SSR and the Turkmen SSR — were created on territory formerly part of the RSFSR. In 1929 the Tadzhik ASSR (formerly part of the Uzbek SSR) became a union republic. Two more union republics were created in 1936: the Kazakh SSR and the Kirgiz SSR, which had been ASSR's within the RSFSR. In the same year the Trans-Caucasian SFSR was abolished, and the Azerbaidzhan, Armenian and Georgian republics became immediate members of the USSR. In 1940 five more union republics were added to the USSR (the Moldavian SSR, the Karelo-Finnish SSR, the Latvian SSR, the Lithuanian SSR, and the Estonian SSR), bringing the number of union republics to sixteen. All the union republics together now contain 19 autonomous republics, 15 of which are within the RSFSR.

RUSSIAN SOVIET FEDERATIVE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC -- RSFSR

(Rossiiskaya Sovetskaya Federativnaya Sotsialisticheskaya Respublika)

Area: 6,442,750 sq. miles
 Pop.: 108,809,469 (as of December 1940)
 Capital: Moscow

The founding of the RSFSR should be dated from the appearance of the first constitutional document of the RSFSR, the "Declaration of Rights of the Toiling and Exploited People," which was issued in January 1918 by the Third All-Russian Session of Soviets. The constitution of the RSFSR was adopted on 10 July 1918 at the Fifth All-Russian Session of Soviets. The RSFSR took the initiative in the founding of the USSR on 30 December 1922 at which time the RSFSR, the Ukrainian SSR, the White Russian SSR and the Trans-Caucasian SFSR were joined together.

The RSFSR includes the following Krais, Oblasts, and Autonomous Republics:

Altai Krai (Altaiski Krai)

Area: 112,600 sq. miles
 Pop.: 2,520,084

Adm. c.: Barnaul (Pop. 148,129)

Est.: 28 September 1937, when the West Siberian Krai was divided into Altai Krai and Novosibirsk Oblast. The West Siberian Krai was formed in 1930 when the Siberian Krai (est. in 1925) was divided.

The Altai Krai includes:

Oirot A. O. (Oirotskaya A. O.)

Area: 35,950 sq. miles
 Pop.: 161,431

Adm. c.: Oirot-Tura.

Est.: 1 June 1922. Included in Siberian Krai until 30 July 1930, and in the West Siberian Krai until 28 September 1937.

Archangel Oblast (Arkhangelskaya Oblast)

Area: 251,750 sq. miles
 Pop.: 1,199,178

Adm. c.: Archangel (Pop.: 281,091)

Est.: 23 September 1937, when the Northern Oblast was divided into the Archangel and Vologda Oblasts. The Northern Oblast was formed out of a part of the Northern Krai (est. in 1929) when the Komi A. O. was separated from it and changed to an autonomous republic on 5 December 1936. In addition to territory on the mainland, the Archangel Oblast includes the following islands of the Arctic Ocean and White Sea: Novaya Zemlya, Zemlya Frantsa-Iosifa (Franz Josef Land), Kolguyev, Vaigach, and Matveyev with a total area of 111,800 sq. miles.

The Archangel Oblast also includes:

Nenets N. O. (Nenetskii N. O.)

Area: 82,800 sq. miles
 Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Maryan-Mar.

Est.: 15 July 1929. Included in Northern Krai (est. 14 January 1929) until 23 September 1937.

Azov-Black Sea Krai (Azovo-Chernomorski Krai)

Area: 70,350 sq. miles (as of 1 March 1937)

Pop.: 5,955,900 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Rostov-on-Don. (Pop.: 510,253)

Est.: 10 January 1934. Formed out of part of the original North Caucasian Krai (est. 13 February 1924). The Azov-Black Sea Krai included the Adygci A. O. and the Northern Oblast (est. beginning of 1934 and changed in the middle of the year to the North Don Okrug). On 11 September 1937, the Azov-Black Sea Krai was divided into the Rostov Oblast and the Krasnodar Krai, the latter including the Adygci A. O. The Northern Oblast had been abolished before that date.

The Azov-Black Sea Krai included:

Northern Oblast (Severnaya Oblast)

Area: 12,100 sq. miles (as of 1 September 1935)

Pop.: 646,600 (as of 1 January 1935)

Est. early in 1934. Included in Azov-Black Sea Krai. Changed to North Don Okrug in the middle of 1934.

Adygci A. O. (Adygciiskaya A. O.) See Krasnodar Krai

Chelyabinsk Oblast (Chelyabinskaya Oblast)

Area: 62,750 sq. miles

Pop.: 2,802,949

Adm. c.: Chelyabinsk. (Pop.: 273,127)

Est. (originally) 17 January 1934, when the Ural Oblast (est. 3 November 1923) was divided into Sverdlovsk, Chelyabinsk, and Ob-Irtysk Oblasts. Included for a short time (1934) the Argayash N. O. Several small areas of Chelyabinsk Oblast were transferred in the summer of 1940 to the Kustanai Oblast of the Kazakh SSR. On 6 February 1943 several raions were removed to form, with parts of Omsk Oblast, the new Kurgan Oblast.

The Chelyabinsk Oblast included:

Argayash N. O. (Argayashski N. O.)

Area: 2,600 sq. miles (as of 15 July 1934)

Pop.: 83,900 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Argayash

Existed, apparently, only during the year 1934.

Chita Oblast (Chitinskaya Oblast)

Area: 278,000 sq. miles

Pop.: 1,159,478

Adm. c.: Chita. (Pop.: 102,555)

Est.: 26 September 1937. Formed when the East Siberian Oblast was divided into the Chita and Irkutsk Oblasts. The East Siberian Oblast was the former East Siberian Krai minus the Buryat-Mongol ASSR which was separated from it in 1936. The East Siberian Krai was formed in 1930 when the Siberian Krai (est. 1925) was divided. The East Siberian Krai included a Chita Oblast which was abolished 7 December 1934 when the area was directly subordinated to the East Siberian Krai. The Chita Oblast at one time included the Vitimo-Olekminsk N. O. (est. 10 December 1930, and abolished in 1938). On 26 February 1940, the boundary between Chita Oblast and Khabarovsk Krai was changed. An area on the upper part of the Maya River was transferred to the Zeisko-Uchurski raion of Chita Oblast.

The Chita Oblast includes:

Aginskoye Buryat-Mongol N. O. (Aginski Buryat-Mongolski N. O.)

Area: 10,750 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Aginskoye

Est. 26 September 1937.

Chkalov Oblast (Chkalovskaya Oblast)

Area: 47,800 sq. miles

Pop.: 1,677,013

Adm. c.: Chkalov (Pop.: 172,923)

Est. 7 December 1934, as the Orenburg Oblast. Was formed out of the eastern part of the Middle Volga Krai and of several raions of the Bashkir ASSR and Kazak ASSR, respectively. Renamed on 26 December 1938. In the summer of 1940 a small area of the Aktyubinsk Oblast, Kazakh SSR was transferred to Chkalov Oblast. On 4 October 1940, several populated areas were transferred from Chkalov Oblast to Kuibyshev Oblast. In the summer of 1940, the settlement Novo-Nikolayevka was transferred from the Chkalov Oblast to the Bashkir ASSR.

East Siberian Krai (Vostochno-Sibirski Krai)

Area: 691,550 sq. miles (as of 1 September 1935)

Pop.: 2,183,300 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Irkutsk (Pop.: 243,380)

Est. 30 July 1930, when the Siberian Krai (est. 1925) was divided into the East and West Siberian Krai. Became an oblast when the Buryat-Mongol ASSR (est. 1923) was separated from it on 5 December 1936, and put directly under the RSFSR. On 10 July 1930, the Chita area was separated from the Far Eastern Krai and added to the East Siberian Krai, in which the Chita area subsequently was made an oblast. This old Chita Oblast was abolished on 7 December 1934, and its raions subordinated directly to the East Siberian Krai. The East Siberian Oblast was divided on 26 September 1937, the western part forming the Irkutsk Oblast and

the Trans-Baikal (Chita) area, together with the Zeya Oblast of the Far Eastern Krai, forming the new Chita Oblast. The East-Siberian Krai (and Oblast) included the Vitimo-Olekminsk N. O. (est. 10 December 1930), which on 26 September 1937, was included in the Chita Oblast and which was abolished in 1938.

Far Eastern Krai (Dalne-Vostochny Krai)

Area: 1,140,600 sq. miles (as of 1 March 1937)

Pop.: 1,860,100 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Khabarovsk. (Pop.: 199,364)

Est. (originally) 4 January 1926. Included the Amur, Zeya, Kamchatka, Lower Amur, Maritime, Sakhalin, Ussuri, and Khabarovsk Oblasts and the Jewish A. O. Kamchatka Oblast included the Koryok and Chukchi (Chukotski) N. O., and the Lower Amur Oblast included the Okhotsk (Evenki) N. O. The Chita Okrug, originally included in the Far Eastern Krai, was added to the East Siberian Krai on 10 July 1930. Subsequently the Chita area was made an oblast in the East Siberian Krai. This oblast was abolished on 7 December 1934. On 26 September 1937, this area and the Zeya Oblast of the Far Eastern Krai were joined to form the new Chita Oblast. The Far Eastern Krai was divided on 20 October 1938, into the Khabarovsk and Maritime Krai.

For the history of the Amur, Kamchatka, Lower Amur, Sakhalin and Khabarovsk Oblasts, and the Jewish A. O., see under Khabarovsk Krai below. The Maritime and Ussuri Oblasts appear under the Maritime Krai below. The data on Zeya Oblast are as follows:

Zeya Oblast (Zeiskaya Oblast)

Area: 67,800 sq. miles (as of 1 March 1937)

Pop.: 116,400 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Rukhlovo.

Est. 22 July 1934. On 26 September 1937, the Zeya Oblast and the Trans-Baikal area of the East Siberian Oblast were combined in the new Chita Oblast. The former Chita Oblast of the East Siberian Krai corresponded to the Trans-Baikal (Chita) Okrug which had been transferred from the Far Eastern Krai to the East Siberian Krai on 10 July 1930.

Gorki Oblast (Gorkovskaya Oblast)

Area: 34,450 sq. miles

Pop.: 3,876,300

Adm. c.: Gorki (Pop.: 644,100)

Est. (originally) 14 January 1928 as the Nizhegorod Krai which included the Chuvash ASSR, the Udmurt (Votyak) A. O. and the Mari A. O. After having been renamed Gorki Krai, it was divided 7 December 1934. The northeastern part (incl. the Udmurt area, now an ASSR) and some of the western districts became the Kirov Krai, the remainder retained the name Gorki Krai. On 5 December 1936, the Mari A. O. was made an ASSR, and together with the Chuvash ASSR was taken out of Gorki Krai and put directly under the RSFSR; the remainder of Gorki Krai became Gorki Oblast.

Irkutsk Oblast (Irkutskaya Oblast)

Area: 547,350 sq. miles

Pop.: 1,286,696

Adm. c.: Irkutsk. (Pop.: 243,380)

Est. 26 September 1937. Formed out of part of the East Siberian Oblast west of Lake Baikal. The East Siberian Krai was formed in 1930 when the Siberian Krai (formed in 1925) was divided. The East Siberian Krai became an oblast 5 December 1936.

The Irkutsk Oblast includes:

Ust-Orda Buryat-Mongol N. O. (Ust-Ordynski Buryat-Mongolski N. O.)

Area: 7,000 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Ust-Orda.

Est. 26 September 1937.

Ivanovo Oblast (Ivanovskaya Oblast)

Area: 24,500 sq. miles

Pop.: 2,650,383

Adm. c.: Ivanovo. (Pop.: 285,069)

Est. (originally), 14 January 1929. On 11 March 1936, the oblast was divided, the southern half constituting the new Ivanovo Oblast, and the northern half forming the new Yaroslavl Oblast.

Kalinin Oblast (Kalininskaya Oblast)

Area: 41,100 sq. miles

Pop.: 3,211,439

Adm. c.: Kalinin (Pop.: 216,131)

Est. 29 January 1935. Was formed out of the northern parts of the Moscow Oblast (est. in 1929) and Western Oblast (est. 1927) and certain southern districts of the Leningrad Oblast (est. in 1927).

The Kalinin Oblast formerly included:

Opochka Okrug (Opochetski Okrug) 7

Area: 4,400 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Opochka.

Est. 11 May 1937, abolished on 5 February 1941.

Velikiye Luki Okrug (Veliko-Lukski Okrug) 7

Area: 9,100 sq. miles (as of 1 September 1935)

Pop.: 803,400 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Velikiye Luki.

Est. 5 February 1935. Abolished sometime between 1 March 1937 and 1 October 1938.

Karelian N. O. (Karelski N. O.)

Adm. c.: Likhoslavl

Est. 9 July 1937. Abolished in early part of 1939 -- probably late February or early March.

Kemerovo Oblast (Kemerovskaya Oblast)

Adm. c.: Kemerovo (Pop.: 132,978)

Est. 26 January 1943. Formed out of the south-eastern part of the Novosibirsk Oblast.

Khabarovsk Krai (Khabarovski Krai)

Area: 993,050 sq. miles

Pop.: 1,430,875

Adm. c.: Khabarovsk (Pop.: 199,364)

Est. 20 October 1938 when the Far Eastern Krai (est. 4 January 1926) was divided into the Maritime and Khabarovsk Krai. In addition to the territory on the mainland, Khabarovsk Krai also includes Wrangel Island in the Arctic. The krai is divided into administrative oblasts, the only krai in the USSR which is so divided. In addition to these administrative oblasts, there are several separate raions (not included in the oblasts) which are immediately subordinated to the krai central executive committee. Also includes one autonomous oblast. The major subdivisions of the Khabarovsk Krai are at present as follows:

Amur Oblast (Amurskaya Oblast)

Area: 82,550 sq. miles

Pop.: 423,300 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Blagoveshchensk (Pop.: 58,761)

Est. 20 October 1932. Before formation of the Khabarovsk Krai was an oblast of the Far Eastern Krai

Kamchatka Oblast (Kamchatskaya Oblast)

Area: 445,300 sq. miles

Pop.: 58,300 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Petropavlovsk

Est. 20 October, 1932. Before formation of the Khabarovsk Krai was an oblast of the Far Eastern Krai.

The Kamchatka Oblast includes the following national okrugs:

Chukchi N. O. (Chukotski N. O.)

Area: 255,050 sq. miles

Pop.: 19,100 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Anadyr

Est. 10 December 1930

Koryak N. O. (Koryakski N. O.)

Area: 120,000 sq. miles

Pop.: 12,500 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Palana (formerly at Penzhinskaya)

Est. 10 December 1930

Lower Amur Oblast (Nizhne-Amurskaya Oblast)

Area: 212,200 sq. miles

Pop.: 87,700 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Nikolayevsk-on-Amur

Est. 22 July 1934. Before formation of Khabarovsk Krai was an oblast of the Far Eastern Krai.

Sakhalin Oblast (Sakhalinskaya Oblast)

Area: 15,700 sq. miles

Pop.: 70,000 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Aleksandrovsk

Est. 20 October 1932. Before formation of the Khabarovsk Krai was an oblast of the Far Eastern Krai.

Jewish A. O. (Yevreiskaya A. O.)

Area: 14,200 sq. miles

Pop.: 108,419

Adm. c.: Birobidzhan.

Est. 7 May 1934. Before formation of Khabarovsk Krai was an oblast of the Far Eastern Krai.

The Khabarovsk Krai has also included the following subdivisions, subsequently abolished:

/Khabarovsk Oblast (Khabarovskaya Oblast)/

Area: 87,900 sq. miles (as of 1 September 1935)

Pop.: 264,100 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Khabarovsk (Pop.: 199,364)

Est. 22 July 1934 as oblast of Far Eastern Krai. Abolished in June or July of 1939 and its raions directly subordinated to the krai central executive committee.

/Kolyma Administrative Okrug/

Area: (?)

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Magadan

Est. about August 1939. Abolished later in same year and raions subordinated directly to krai central executive committee.

Kirov Oblast (Kirovskaya Oblast)

Area: 40,750 sq. miles
Pop.: 2,226,109

Adm. c.: Kirov (Pop.: 143,181)

Est. (originally) 7 December 1934 as a krai, when the original Gorki Krai was divided. Some of the western districts of the Sverdlovsk Oblast and the Udmurt ASSR were assigned to the new krai. When the Udmurt ASSR was placed directly under the RSFSR on 5 December 1936, the Kirov Krai became the Kirov Oblast.

Krasnodar Krai (Krasnodarski Krai)

Area: 31,100 sq. miles
Pop.: 3,172,885

Adm. c.: Krasnodar (Pop.: 203,946)

Est. 13 September 1937, when the Azov-Black Sea Krai was divided into the Rostov Oblast and the Krasnodar Krai. The Azov-Black Sea Krai was established on 10 January 1934, when it was separated from the North Caucasian Krai, which was formed on 13 February 1924. On 7 January 1941, the island of Srednyaya Koza (Tuzla) was transferred from Krasnodar Krai to the Crimean ASSR.

The Krasnodar Krai includes:

Adygei A. O. (Adygeiskaya A. O.)

Area: 1,500 sq. miles
Pop.: 241,773

Adm. c.: Maikop. (Pop.: 67,302)

Est. 27 July 1922, as Cherkess (Adygei) A. O. Renamed Adygei (Cherkess) A. O. 24 August 1922. Included in North Caucasian Krai (est. 13 February 1924), Azov-Black Sea Krai (est. 10 January 1934) and Krasnodar Krai (est. 13 September 1937).

Krasnoyarsk Krai (Krasnoyarski Krai)

Area: 827,700 sq. miles
Pop.: 1,940,002

Adm. c.: Krasnoyarsk. (Pop.: 189,999)

Est. 7 December 1934, by detaching the northern and western parts of the East Siberian Krai and a part of the West Siberian Krai.

The Krasnoyarsk Krai includes:

Khakass A. O. (Khakasskaya A. O.)

Area: 22,600 sq. miles
Pop.: 270,655

Adm. c.: Abkan.

Est. 20 October 1930. Until the formation of the Krasnoyarsk Krai (7 December 1934) it was part of the West Siberian Krai.

Evenki N. O. (Evenkiiski N. O.)

Area: 209,100 sq. miles
Pop.: 4,900 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Tura

Est. 10 December 1930. Before the formation of the Krasnoyarsk Krai (est. 7 December 1934) it was included in the East Siberian Krai (est. 30 July 1930).

Taimyr (Dolgano-Nenets) N.O. (Taimyrski (Dolgano-Nenetski) N.O.)

Area: 286,700 sq. miles
Pop.: 3,000 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Dudinka.

Est. 10 December 1930. Before the formation of the Krasnoyarsk Krai (7 December 1934) the Taimyr N.O. was included in the East Siberian Krai (est. 30 July 1930).

Kuibyshev Oblast (Kuibyshevskaya Oblast)

Area: 33,500 sq. miles
Pop.: 2,767,562

Adm. c.: Kuibyshev (Pop.: 390,267)

Est. 5 December 1936, when the Mordvin ASSR was detached from the former Kuibyshev Krai. Previous to 1935 the Kuibyshev Krai was called the Middle Volga Krai. The original Middle Volga Krai was established 10 January 1930 when the Mordvin Okrug was made an A.O. and attached to the then Middle Volga Oblast (est. 14 May 1928). On 7 December 1934 the original Middle Volga Krai was divided, the eastern part being detached and included in the new Orenburg Oblast, the western part retaining the original name. On 4 October 1940, several populated areas were transferred from Chkalov Oblast to Kuibyshev Oblast. A small area was transferred from the Tatar ASSR to Kuibyshev Oblast on 7 October 1940.

Kurgan Oblast (Kurganskaya Oblast)

Area: (?)
Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Kurgan (Pop.: 53,224)

Est. 6 February 1943. Formed from parts of Chelyabinsk and Omsk Oblasts.

Kursk Oblast (Kurskaya Oblast)

Area: 21,100 sq. miles
Pop.: 3,196,814

Adm. c. Kursk. (Pop.: 119,972)

Est. 13 June 1934, when the Central Black Soil Oblast (est. 1928) was divided into the Kursk and Voronezh Oblasts. On 27 September 1937, a part of the Kursk Oblast was included in the Orel Oblast, which was formed on that date. In December 1939, the Dolgorukovo raion of Kursk Oblast was transferred to Orel Oblast. On 7 October 1940, Glotovo area was transferred from Voronezh Oblast to Kursk Oblast.

Leningrad Oblast (Leningradskaya Oblast)

Area: 55,500 sq. miles

Pop.: 6,435,100

Adm. c.: Leningrad (Pop.: 3,191,300)

Est. (originally) 1 August 1927. In 1935 a number of raions in the southern part of the oblast were detached to form, together with parts of adjoining oblasts, the new Kalinin Oblast; on 23 September 1937 several raions in the eastern part of the oblast were detached to form, with other territory, the new Vologda Oblast. On 29 May 1938 the Murmansk Okrug which had been part of the Leningrad Oblast (although separated from the rest of it by the Karelian ASSR) was detached and established as a separate oblast.

The Leningrad Oblast has included (at one time or another) the following okrugs:

Kingisepp Okrug (Kingiseppski Okrug)

Area: 2,850 sq. miles

Pop.: 129,100 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Kingisepp

Est. 22 March 1935

Pskov Okrug (Pskovski Okrug)

Area: 6,500 sq. miles

Pop.: 517,500 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Pskov

Est. 22 March 1935. Abolished 19 September 1940.

Murmansk Okrug (Murmanski Okrug)

Area: 49,000 sq. miles (as of 1 September 1935)

Pop.: 112,800 (1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Murmansk

Est. (?) Became Murmansk Oblast, 29 May 1938.

Lower Volga Krai (Nizhne-Volzhski Krai)

Area: 126,950 sq. miles (as of 1929)

Pop.: 5,342,541 (as of 1936)

Adm. c.: Saratov (Pop.: 375,860)

Est. in 1928. Included the Volga German ASSR (est. 19 December 1923) and the Kalmyk A.O. (est. 25 October 1920). The Lower Volga Krai was divided on 10 January 1934, into the Saratov Krai (including the Volga German ASSR) and the Stalingrad Krai (including the Kalmyk A.O.). 5 December 1936, the Kalmyk A.O. was made an ASSR and was put, along with the Volga German ASSR, directly under the RSFSR. The Saratov and Stalingrad Krai thus became oblasts.

Maritime Krai (Primorski Krai)

Area: 79,800 sq. miles
Pop.: 907,220

Adm. c.: Vladivostok. (Pop.: 206,432).

Est. 20 October 1938. Formerly the Maritime Oblast was included in the Far Eastern Krai (established in 1926).

The Maritime Krai includes (or included):

/Maritime Oblast (Primorskaya Oblast)/

Area: 37,350 sq. miles (as of 1 March 1937)
Pop.: 415,300 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Vladivostok (Pop.: 206,432)

Est. 20 October 1932 in the Far Eastern Krai where it remained until the creation of the Maritime Krai. Abolished late in June or early in July, 1939, and its raions subordinated directly to the central executive committee of the Maritime Krai.

. Ussuri Oblast (Ussuriiskaya Oblast)

Area: 42,450 sq. miles
Pop.: 375,000 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Voroshilov (Pop.: 70,628)

Est. 22 July 1934. Until 20 October 1938, included in Far Eastern Krai.

/Middle Volga Krai (Sredne-Volzhski Krai)/

Area: 93,750 sq. miles (as of 15 July 1934)
Pop.: 7,590,200 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Samara (Pop.: 390,267)

Est. 14 May 1928 as an oblast including the Mordvin Okrug. Became a krai when the Mordvin Okrug was made an Autonomous Oblast on 10 January 1930. On 7 December 1934, the Middle Volga Krai was divided and the Orenburg Oblast was formed out of the eastern part of its territory together with several raions of the Bashkir ASSR and Kazak ASSR. At the same time the Orsk Industrial (Promyshlenny) Okrug, included in the Middle Volga Krai up to that time, was abolished. The Middle Volga Krai was renamed Kuibyshev Krai (1935) and Samara was renamed Kuibyshev. The Mordvin Autonomous Oblast became an ASSR on 20 December 1934, and on 5 December 1936 was put directly under the RSFSR, Kuibyshev Krai becoming Kuibyshev Oblast.

Molotov Oblast (Molotovskaya Oblast)

Area: ~64,500 sq. miles
Pop.: 2,082,166

Adm. c.: Molotov. (Pop.: 255,196) (Former name: Perm)
as Perm Oblast

Est. 3 October 1938/out of the western part of Sverdlovsk Oblast. Sverdlovsk Oblast was formed on 17 January 1934, when the Ural Oblast (est. 3 November 1923) was divided into the Chelyabinsk, Sverdlovsk and Ob-Irtysh Oblasts. On 8 March 1940, Perm Oblast was renamed Molotov Oblast.

The Molotov Oblast includes:

Komi-Perm N.O. (Komi-Permyatski N.O.)

Area: 11,300 sq. miles
Pop.: 138,000 (1 January 1935)

Adm. c.: Kudymkar.

Est. 26 February 1925. Prior to the division of Sverdlovsk Oblast and the formation of Perm (Molotov) Oblast, the Komi-Perm N.O. was included in Sverdlovsk Oblast; before that, it was included in the Ural Oblast.

Moscow Oblast (Moskovskaya Oblast)

Area: 19,100 sq. miles
Pop.: 8,518,000

Adm. c.: Moscow (Pop.: 4,137,000)

Est. (originally) 14 January 1926. On 29 January 1935, the northern part of the Moscow Oblast was incorporated in the newly formed Kalinin Oblast. On 26 September 1937, Tula Oblast was formed out of the southern half of Moscow Oblast. On the same date a part of Moscow Oblast was incorporated in the newly formed Rязan Oblast.

Murmansk Oblast (Murmanskaya Oblast)

Area: 53,350 sq. miles
Pop.: 231,188

Adm. c.: Murmansk (Pop.: 117,000)

Est. 29 May 1936. Before that date was Murmansk Okrug a part of the Leningrad Oblast (est. 1 August 1927). When the Murmansk Okrug was transformed into an Oblast the Kandalaksha Raion -- the northern tip of the Karelian ASSR -- was added to it.

Nizhegorod Krai (Nizhegorodski Krai)

Area: 103,200 sq. miles (as of 15 July 1934)
Pop.: 8,146,300 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Nizhni-Novgorod.

Est. 14 January 1929. Included the Chuvash ASSR, the Udmurt (Votyak) A.O. and the Mari A.O. After having been renamed Gorki Krai, it was divided on 7 December 1934, the northeastern part (including the Udmurt area, now an ASSR) and some of the western districts forming the new Kirov Krai. The Mari A.O. became an ASSR on 5 December 1936, and it, as well as the Chuvash ASSR, was put directly under the RSFSR. The remainder of the Gorki Krai became an Oblast.

Northern Oblast (Severnaya Oblast)

Area: 289,500 sq. miles (as of 1 March 1937)

Pop.: 2,455,500 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Archangel. (Pop.: 231,091)

Est. 14 January 1920, as the Northern Krai. It included the Komi A.O. (est. 22 August 1921), the Nenets A.O. (est. 15 July 1923) and the Islands of the Arctic Ocean and White Sea (Franz Josef's Land, Kolguev, Novaya Zemlya, Solovetskiye Isl.) became an oblast when Komi A.O. was promoted to an ASSR on 5 December 1936 and placed directly under the RSFSR. Dissolved when divided into Archangel and Vologda Oblasts on 23 September 1937.

North Caucasian Krai (Severo-Kavkazskii Krai)

Area: 65,500 sq. miles (as of 1 September 1933)

Pop.: 5,922,700 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Ordzhonikidze (Pop.: 127,172) (former name: Vladikavkaz)
the

Est. 15 February 1924. Before that area was known as the Southeastern Oblast. Original capital: Rostov-on-Don. In January 1934, the northeastern part of the krai was detached to form the new Azov-Black Sea Krai, the remainder retaining its original name until 13 March 1937 when it was renamed Ordzhonikidze Krai. Temporary capital as of 1 March 1937: Pyatigorsk. The North Caucasian Krai included the Adyghe (Chechens), Kabardino-Balkar, Karachayev-Cherkess, and the Chechen A.O., and, until 5 December 1936, the Dagestan ASSR.

Novosibirsk Oblast (Novosibirskaya Oblast)

Area: 256,850 sq. miles

Pop.: 4,022,700

Adm. c.: Novosibirsk (Pop.: 465,589)

Est. 28 September 1937, when the former West Siberian Krai was divided into the Novosibirsk Oblast and the Altai Krai. The West Siberian Krai was established in 1930 when the Siberian Krai (est. in 1925) was divided. On 26 January 1943, a portion of southeastern part of Novosibirsk Oblast was detached to form the new Kemerovo Oblast.

The Novosibirsk Oblast includes:

Har'yn Olrug (Har'yanski Olrug)

Area: 118,050 sq. miles

Pop.: 123,300 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Kolpashevo.

Est. 10 June 1932. Was part of the West Siberian Krai (est. 30 July 1930) until 23 September 1937.

Ob-Irtysh Oblast (Obsko-Irtyshskaya Oblast)

Area: 508,900 sq. miles (as of 15 July 1934)

Pop.: 436,000 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Tyumen. (Pop.: 75,557)

Est. 17 January 1934, when the Ural Oblast (est. 3 November 1923) was divided into the Chelyabinsk, Sverdlovsk, and Ob-Irtysh Oblasts. Was superseded by the Omsk Oblast (7 December 1934) which included not only the territory of the Ob-Irtysh Oblast, but also parts of the West Siberian Krai and of the Chelyabinsk Oblast. The Ob-Irtysh Oblast included the Yamal-Menets N.O. and the Ostyak-Vogulsk N.O. (both est. on 10 December 1930).

Omsk Oblast (Omskaya Oblast)

Area: 556,200 sq. miles

Pop.: 2,366,600

Adm. c.: Omsk (Pop.: 280,716)

Est. 7 December 1934. Formed out of the Ob-Irtysh Oblast (est. 17 January 1934) and parts of the West Siberian Krai (est. 30 July 1930) and of the Chelyabinsk Oblast (est. 17 January 1934). On 6 February 1943 some raions were detached to form, together with several raions of Chelyabinsk Oblast, the new Kurgan Oblast.

The Omsk Oblast has included, at one time or another, the following:

Tara Okrug (Tarski Okrug)

Area: 29,350 sq. miles

Pop.: 248,400 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Tara.

Est. 15 November 1930. Included in West Siberian Krai (est. 30 July 1930) until the formation of Omsk Oblast. Abolished 23 November 1940.

Tobolsk Okrug (Tobolski Okrug)

Area: 37,850 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Tobolsk.

Est. 10 December 1930.

Khanty-Mansiisk N.O. (Khanty-Mansiiskii N.O.)

Area: 225,800 sq. miles

Pop.: 102,200 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Khanty-Mansiisk (formerly Samarovo)

Est. 10 December 1930 as the Ostyak-Vogul N.O. Included in Ob-Irtysh Oblast from 13 January to 7 December 1934.

Ostyak-Vogul N.O. (Ostiako-Vogulskii N.O.) - see Khanty-Mansiiskii N.O.

Yamal-Menets N.O. (Yamalo-Menetski N.O.)

Area: 244,650 sq. miles

Pop.: 29,500 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Salegard

Est. 10 December 1930. Was included in the Ob-Irtysh Oblast from 17 January 1934 to 7 December 1934, and before that, in the Ural Oblast (est. 3 November 1923).

Ordzhonikidze Krai (Ordzhonikidzevski Krai)

Area: 33,550 sq. miles
Pop.: 1,349,340

Adm. c.: Voroshilovsk (Pop.: 35,100) (former name: Stavropol)

Est. January 1934 as North Caucasian Krai as result of division of former North Caucasian Krai (est. 13 February 1924). Renamed Ordzhonikidze Krai 13 March 1937 and Stavropol Krai sometime between 20 December 1942 and 14 March 1943.

Orenburg Oblast (Orenburgskaya Oblast)

Area: 36,000 sq. miles (as of 1 September 1935)
Pop.: 1,610,700 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Orenburg (Chkalov)

Est. 7 December 1934. Formed out of the eastern part of the former Middle Volga Krai and several raions of the Bashkir ASSR and Kazak ASSR. It was renamed Chkalovskaya Oblast and the city of Orenburg was renamed Chkalov on 26 December 1938.

Orel Oblast (Orlovskaya Oblast)

Area: 25,250 sq. miles
Pop.: 3,482,400

Adm. c.: Orel. (Pop.: 110,567)

Est. 27 September 1937. Formed out of parts of the Kursk Oblast (est. 13 June 1934), the Voronezh Oblast (est. 13 June 1934), and the Western Oblast (est. 14 January 1929).

Penza Oblast (Penzenskaya Oblast)

Area: 17,200 sq. miles
Pop.: 1,708,656

Adm. c.: Penza. (Pop.: 157,145)

Est. 4 February 1939, when the Tambov Oblast was divided, the western half retaining the name Tambov Oblast and the eastern half becoming the Penza Oblast.

Perm Oblast (Permskaya Oblast)

Area: 64,500 sq. miles
Pop.: 2,082,162

Adm. c.: Perm (Pop.: 255,196), renamed Molotov.

Est. 5 October 1933 out of western part of Sverdlovsk Oblast which was formed 17 January 1934 when Ural Oblast (est. 3 November 1923) was divided into Chelyabinsk, Sverdlovsk and Ob-Irtysh Oblasts. Name changed to Molotov Oblast 2 March 1940.

Rostov Oblast (Rostovskaya Oblast)

Area: 38,900 sq. miles
Pop.: 2,834,097

Adm. c.: Rostov-on-Don. (Pop.: 510,253)

Est. 11 September 1937, when the Azov-Black Sea Krai (est. 10 January 1934) was divided into Rostov Oblast and Krasnodar Krai.

Ryazan Oblast (Ryazanskaya Oblast)

Area: 17,750 sq. miles
Pop.: 2,265,875

Adm. c.: Ryazan (Pop.: 95,350)

Est. 26 September 1937. Formed out of parts of the Voronezh Oblast (est. 13 June 1934) and the Moscow Oblast (est. 14 January 1929).

Saratov Oblast (Saratovskaya Oblast)

Area: 31,800 sq. miles
Pop.: 1,798,805

Adm. c.: Saratov (Pop.: 275,860)

Est. (as a krai) 10 January 1934 when the Lower Volga Krai (est. 1928) was divided into Saratov Krai (including the Volga German ASSR) and Stalingrad Krai (including the Kalmyk A.O.). Saratov Krai became an oblast on 5 December 1936 when the Volga German ASSR was detached from it and subordinated directly to the RSFSR.

Siberian Krai (Sibirski Krai)]

Area: 1,629,700 sq. miles (as of 1929)
Pop.. 8,661,317 (as of 1926)

Adm. c.: Novo-Nikolayevsk.

Est. 25 May 1925. Divided on 30 July 1930 into West Siberian and East Siberian Krai.

Smolensk Oblast (Smolenskaya Oblast)

Area: 27,300 sq. miles
Pop.: 2,690,779

Adm. c.: Smolensk (Pop.: 156,677)

Est. 27 September 1937 when the Western Oblast (est. 14 January 1929) was divided into the Smolensk Oblast and the Orel Oblast.

South-Eastern Oblast (Yugo-Vostochnaya Oblast)]

Area: 65,500 sq. miles (as of 1 September 1935)
Pop.: 3,922,700 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Rostov-on-Don (Pop.: 510,253)

Est. 13 February 1924. Renamed North Caucasian Krai the same year. See North Caucasian Krai.

Stalingrad Oblast (Stalingradskaya Oblast)

Area: 52,500 sq. miles
Pop.: 2,239,949

Adm. c.: Stalingrad (Pop.: 445,416)

Est. 10 January 1934, when the Lower Volga Krai (est. 1928) was divided into Stalingrad Krai (including the Kalmyk A.O.) and the Saratov Krai (including the Volga German ASSR). Stalingrad Krai became an oblast on 5 December 1936 when the Kalmyk A.O. was an ASSR and subordinated directly to the RSFSR.

The Stalingrad Oblast includes:

Astrakhan Okrug (Astrakhanski Okrug)

Area: 12,500 sq. miles
Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Astrakhan. (Pop.: 250,000)

Est. 16 July 1937

Stavropol Krai (Stavropol'ski Krai)

Area: 39,550 sq. miles
Pop.: 1,949,549

Adm. c.: Stavropol (Pop.: 85,100) (between 1937 and 1943 it was named Verkhnikavkaz).

Formerly Ordzhonikidze Krai and before that North Caucasian Krai. In January 1934 the original North Caucasian Krai (est. 13 February 1924) was divided, a part of it forming the Azov-Black Sea Krai and the remainder retaining the name North Caucasian Krai. This latter was renamed Ordzhonikidze Krai on 15 March 1937 and Stavropol Krai sometime between 20 December 1942 and 14 March 1943.

The Stavropol Krai includes:

Cherkass A.O. (Cherkesskaya A.O.)

Area: 1,200 sq. miles
Pop.: 32,534

Adm. c.: Cherkassk.

Est. 30 April 1928.

Karachayev A.O. (Karachayevskaya A.O.)

Area: 4,200 sq. miles
Pop.: 149,925

Adm. c.: Mikoyan-Shakhlar.

Est. 12 January 1922.

Kizlyar Okrug (Kizlyarski Okrug)

Area: 9,000 sq. miles
Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Kizlyar.

Est. 22 February 1938.

Sverdlovsk Oblast (Sverdlovskaya Oblast)

Area: 74,500 sq. miles
Pop.: 2,512,175

Adm. c.: Sverdlovsk (Pop.: 425,544) (former name: Yekaterinburg)

Est. (in present boundaries) 3 October 1933 when Perm (subsequently Molotov) Oblast formed out of western part of original Sverdlovsk Oblast which was established 17 January 1934 when Ural Oblast (est 3 November 1923) was divided into Sverdlovsk, Chelyabinsk and Ob-Irtysk Oblasts.

Tambov Oblast (Tambovskaya Oblast)

Area: 15,750 sq. miles
Pop.: 1,882,139

Adm. c.: Tambov (Pop.: 121,265)

Est. (in present boundaries) 1 February 1939 when Penza Oblast was formed out of the eastern half of the original Tambov Oblast which was established 26 September 1937 out of parts of the Voronezh Oblast (est. 13 June 1934) and the Kuibyshev Oblast (est. 14 May 1934).

Central Black Soil Oblast (Tsentralno-Chernozemnaya Oblast) 7

Area: 74,300 sq. miles (as of 1929)
Pop.: 11,146,743 (as of 1926)

Adm. c.: Voronezh (Pop.: 326,836)

Est. 1928. Was divided into the Voronezh and Kursk Oblasts on 13 June 1934.

Tula Oblast (Tul'skaya Oblast)

Area: 12,300 sq. miles
Pop.: 2,049,950

Adm. c.: Tula (Pop.: 272,403)

Est. 26 September 1937. Formed out of the southern part of Moscow Oblast (est. 4 January 1929).

Ulyanovsk Oblast (Ulyanovskaya Oblast)

Area: (?)
Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Ulyanovsk (Pop.: 102,103)

Est. 19 January 1943, out of parts of Kuibyshev Oblast (24 raions) and Penza Oblast (2 raions). Includes cities of Ulyanovsk and Mulekes.

Ural Oblast (Uralskaya Oblast)

Area: 639,136 sq. miles (as of 1929)

Pop.: 6,600,000 (as of 1926)

Adm. c.: Sverdlovsk (Pop.: 425,544)

Est. 5 November 1923. Divided 17 January 1934 into the Chelyabinsk, Sverdlovsk and Ob-Irtysh Oblasts.

Ussuri Oblast — see under Maritime Krai.

Vologda Oblast (Vologodskaya Oblast)

Area: 57,900 sq. miles

Pop.: 1,632,258

Adm. c.: Vologda (Pop.: 95,194)

Est. 23 September 1937, when the Northern Oblast was divided into the Vologda and Archangel Oblasts. The Northern Oblast was established on 5 December 1936 when the Far A. O. was detached from the Northern Krai (est. in 1929) and changed to an autonomous republic. A strip of territory taken from the Leningrad Oblast was added to Vologda Oblast when the latter was established.

Voronezh Oblast (Voronezhskaya Oblast)

Area: 26,050 sq. miles

Pop.: 3,551,000

Adm. c.: Voronezh (Pop.: 526,330)

Est. (in present boundaries) 26 September 1937 when part of the original Voronezh Oblast was assigned to the new Tambov Oblast. The original Voronezh Oblast was established 12 June 1934 when the Central Black Soil Oblast (est. in 1923) was divided into the Voronezh and Kursk Oblasts.

Western Oblast (Zapadnaya Oblast)

Area: 44,100 sq. miles (as of 1 March 1937)

Pop.: 5,256,100 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Smolensk (Pop.: 156,677)

Est. 14 January 1929. Northern part taken, 29 January 1935, together with adjoining areas, to form Kalinin Oblast. Southern part taken, 27 September 1937, together with adjoining areas, to form Orel Oblast; at this time the remainder was renamed Smolensk Oblast.

West Siberian Krai (Zapadno-Sibirski Krai)

Area: 349,550 sq. miles (as of 1 March 1937)

Pop.: 6,140,800 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Novosibirsk (Pop.: 405,589)

Est. 30 February 1930, when the Siberian Krai (est. 25 May 1925) was divided into the West Siberian and East Siberian Krai. The West Siberian Krai was divided on 23 September 1937, into the Novosibirsk Oblast and Altai Krai. When the Omsk Oblast was formed on 7 December 1934, it included a part of the West Siberian Krai.

Yaroslavl Oblast (Yaroslavskaya Oblast)

Area: 24,350 sq. miles

Pop.: 2,271,307

Adm. c.: Yaroslavl. (Pop.: 298,065)

Est. 11 March 1936. Was formed out of the northern half of the original Ivanovo Oblast (est. 14 January 1929).

AUTONOMOUS REPUBLICS

Bashkir ASSR (Bashkirskaya ASSR)

Area: 54,250 sq. miles

Pop.: 3,144,715

Capital: Ufa. (Pop.: 245,835).

Est. 25 March 1919.

Buryat-Mongol ASSR (Buryat-Mongolskaya ASSR)

Area: 127,950 sq. miles

Pop.: 542,170

Capital: Ulan-Ude (Pop.: 129,417)

Est. 30 May 1923, and subordinated directly to the RSFSR. Included in the East Siberian Krai formed in 1930 when the Siberian Krai was divided. On 5 December 1936, the Buryat-Mongol ASSR was again put directly under the RSFSR and the East Siberian Krai made an oblast. When the East Siberian Oblast was divided into the Chita and Irkutsk Oblasts (26 September 1937) two exclaves of the Buryat-Mongol ASSR one west of Lake Baikal and one east of the lake, were transferred to the new oblasts, the one to the west becoming the Ust-Orda Buryat-Mongol N.O. of the Irkutsk Oblast and the one to the east being included in the Chita Oblast as the Aginskoye Buryat-Mongol N.O.

Chechen-Ingush ASSR (Checheno-Ingushskaya ASSR)

Area: 6,050 sq. miles

Pop.: 697,408

Capital: Grozny (Pop.: 172,468)

Est. 15 December 1936 when the former Chechen-Ingush A.O., which was established 15 January 1924 as part of the North Caucasian Krai, was promoted to ASSR and subordinated directly to the RSFSR. The former Chechen-Ingush A.O. was formed by combining the Chechen A.O. (est. 30 Nov. 1922) and the Ingush A. O. (est. 7 July 1924) which were parts of the original North Caucasian Krai.

Chuvash ASSR (Chuvashskaya ASSR)

Area: 6,900 sq. miles

Pop.: 1,077,614

Capital: Cheboksary.

Est. as A.O. in the RSFSR on 24 June 1920; changed to an ASSR 21 April 1925, remaining in the RSFSR. Placed under Nizhegorod Krai (later Gorki Krai) until 5 December 1936 when it was again put directly under the RSFSR.

Crimean ASSR (Krymskaya ASSR)

Area: 10,050 sq. miles
 Pop.: 1,128,324

Capital: Simferopol. (Pop.: 142,678)

Est. 18 October 1921. On 7 January 1941, the island of Srednyaya Koza was transferred from Krasnodar Krai to the Crimean ASSR.

Dagestan ASSR (Dagestanskaya ASSR)

Area: 13,500 sq. miles
 Pop.: 960,527

Capital: Makhach-Kala. (Pop.: 86,847)

Est. 20 January 1921. Was included in North Caucasian Krai (est. 13 February 1944) until 5 December 1936.

Mountain ASSR (Gorskaya ASSR)

Area: (?)
 Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Vladikavkaz (subsequently renamed Ordzhonikidze).

Est. 20 January 1921. On 1 September 1921 a portion (parts of the Nalchik and Sunzhensk. Okrugs) was detached to form the Kabardinian A.O. which was subordinated directly to the RSFSR. On 12 January 1922 the section peopled by the Karachayev tribe was detached to form the Karachayev (Cherkess) A.O., also directly under the RSFSR. Four days later (16 January 1922) another section, inhabited predominantly by Balkarians, was detached and added to the Kabardinian A.O. which was renamed the Kabardino-Balkarian A.O. On 30 November 1922 the part of the Gorskaya ASSR inhabited by the Chechens was detached to form the Chechen A.O. directly subordinated to the RSFSR. On 7 July 1924 the North Osetian A.O., the Ingush A.O., the Sunzhensk Autonomous Okrug, and the city of Vladikavkaz (which was given the status of an okrug), were organized out of the remainder of the Gorskaya ASSR which ceased to exist as of this date.

Kabardino-Balkarian ASSR (Kabardino-Balkarskaya ASSR)

Area: 4,750 sq. miles
 Pop.: 359,236

Capital: Nalchik.

Est. as the Kabardinian A.O. under the RSFSR on 1 September 1921. Re-organized as the Kabardino-Balkarian A.O. 16 January 1922. Was placed in the North Caucasian Krai on its establishment on 13 February 1924. Made an ASSR on 5 December 1936, and included directly in RSFSR.

Kalmyk ASSR (Kalmytskaya ASSR)

Area: 28,650 sq. miles
 Pop.: 220,723

Adm. c.: Elista (for a while Astrakhan was the Adm. c.)

Est. 25 November 1920 as A.O. Included in Lower Volga Krai 1928-1934, and thereafter in Stalingrad Krai until 5 December 1936 when promoted to ASSR and subordinated directly to RSFSR.

Karelian ASSR (Karelskaya ASSR)

Area: 56,700 sq. miles

Pop.: 469,145

Adm. c.: Petrozavodsk (Pop.: 69,700)

Est.: 25 July 1923. Formerly the Karelian Workers' Commune (est. 4 August 1920). The Kandalaksha Raion of the Karelian ASSR was transferred to Murmansk Oblast on 29 May 1938. On 31 March 1940, the ASSR was merged with most of the territory acquired from Finland to form the Karelo-Finnish SSR. The boundary between the RSFSR and the Karelo-Finnish SSR was fixed on 8 August 1940.

Kirgiz ASSR (Kirgizskaya ASSR)

Area: (?)

Pop.: (?)

Est. 26 August 1920. Renamed Kazakh ASSR 15 June 1925. On 5 December 1936 became Kazak SSR.

Komi ASSR (Komi ASSR)

Area: 144,750 sq. miles

Pop.: 318,969

Capital: Syktyvkar.

Est. 5 December 1936. Originally organized as Zyryan A.O. 22 August 1921. Became part of the Northern Krai when the latter was formed in 1929.

The Komi ASSR includes:

Pechora Okrug (Pechorski Okrug)

Area: 69,750 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Ust-Usa

Est. 25 February 1936.

Mari ASSR (Mariiskaya ASSR)

Area: 9,000 sq. miles

Pop.: 579,466

Capital: Ioshkar-Ola.

Est. as an ASSR on 5 December 1936. Previously an A.O. (est. 4 November 1920) which subsequently was included in the Nizhegorod Krai (est. 14 January 1929). When the Kirov Krai was separated from Gorki (Nizhegorod) Krai on 7 December 1934, the Mari A.O. remained in the Gorki Krai.

Mordvin ASSR (Mordovskaya ASSR)

Area: 9,850 sq. miles

Pop.: 1,188,598

Capital: Saransk

Est. as ASSR 10 December 1934. Previously an A.O. (est. 10 January 1930) included in the Middle Volga (Kuibyshev) Krai, on 5 December 1936 it was subordinated directly to the RSFSR, Kuibyshev Krai becoming an oblast. On 16 November 1940, a small area of the Mordvin ASSR was added to Penza Oblast and on 26 April 1940, a small area was transferred from the Penza Oblast to the Mordvin ASSR.

Volga German ASSR (Nemtsov Povolzhny ASSR)

Area: 10,900 sq. miles

Pop.: 605,542

Capital: Engels. (Pop.: 13,279)

Est. as ASSR 10 December 1927. Previously called the Workers' Commune of Volga Germans (est. 19 October 1918). Included in Lower Volga Krai when latter est. in 1928. When the Lower Volga Krai was divided 10 January 1934, the Volga German ASSR was included in the new Saratov Krai. On 5 December 1936, the Volga German ASSR was placed directly under the RSFSR. In September 1941, the Volga German ASSR was abolished. Fifteen of its regions were awarded to Saratov Oblast and seven regions to Stalingrad Oblast.

North Ossetian ASSR (Severo-Osetinskaya ASSR)

Area: 2,400 sq. miles

Pop.: 378,885

Capital: Ordzhonikidze (Pop.: 127,172)

Est. as an ASSR 5 December 1936. Formerly an A.O. (est. 7 July 1924) included in the North Caucasian Krai.

Tatar ASSR (Tatarskaya ASSR)

Area: 25,900 sq. miles

Pop.: 2,919,423

Capital: Kazan. (Pop.: 401,665)

Est. 27 May 1920. On 7 October 1940 a small area was transferred from the Tatar ASSR to Kuibyshev Oblast.

Udmurt ASSR (Udmurtskaya ASSR)

Area: 15,000 sq. miles

Pop.: 1,220,007

Capital: Izhevsk (Pop.: 175,740)

Est. as an ASSR 28 December 1934. Originally organized as the Votyak A.O., 4 November 1920, it was subsequently included in the Nizhegorod (later Gorki) Krai which was organized 14 January 1929. When the

Gorki Krai was divided, 7 December 1934, the Vot'yak (by then called the Udmurt) A.O. was included in the new Kirov Krai. On 5 December 1936 the Udmurt ASSR was taken out of the Kirov Krai and subordinated directly to the RSFSR, Kirov Krai becoming Kirov Oblast.

Yakut ASSR (Yakutskaya ASSR)

Area: 1,170,250 sq. miles

Pop.: 400,544

Capital: Yakutsk.

Est. 27 April 1922.

The Yakut ASSR includes:

Aldan Okrug (Aldanski Okrug)

Area: 130,000 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c. Aldan (former name: Nozavetny).

Est. 8 April 1939.

UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC -- Ukrainian SSR
(Ukrainskaya SSR)

Area: 221,600 sq. miles (as of December 1940)

Pop.: 40,200,200 (as of December 1940)

Capital: Kiev (until 1934, Kharkov) (Pop.: 846,293)

Various declarations of independence: 27 December 1917, March 1918, 23 November 1918 and finally in December 1919. Incorporated into USSR 30 December 1922.

The early division into gubernias, uyezds and volosts (after 7 March 1923 gubernias, okrugs and raions) was changed on 1 August 1925 to a three-stage division: okrug, raion and village (and/or city) soviet. On 15 September 1930 the okrugs were abolished and the raions (484 in number) were placed in direct subordination to the central Ukrainian government. Also 13 cities were placed under the immediate control of the central government. After its establishment on 12 October 1924, the Moldavian ASSR had remained an autonomous unit.

In 1932 the raions were grouped into seven oblasts (Kharkov, Kiev, Vinnitsa, Dnepropetrovsk, Odessa, Donetsk and Chernigov). Subsequently the number was increased by dividing the original oblasts. On 4 December 1939 the Ukrainian Republic was enlarged by the addition of former Polish territory which was organized into six new oblasts.

After the annexation of Bessarabia the Moldavian ASSR was severed from the Ukraine and together with the major part of Bessarabia was organized as the Moldavian SSR on 2 August 1940. The rest of Bessarabia and northern Bukovina (also ceded by Rumania) were added directly to the Ukrainian SSR on 2 August 1940 and organized into two additional oblasts. The total result of these changes was an increase of 42,100 sq. mi. to the Ukraine, and an increase of 9,240,000 in population.

Akkerman Oblast (Akkermanskaya Oblast)

Area: (?)

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Akkerman (Pop.: 19,000, as of December 1940)

Est. August or September 1940. Composed of the Akkerman and Izmail districts of Bessarabia. On 7 December 1940 its adm. c. was changed to Izmail and its name changed to Izmail Oblast.

Chernigov Oblast (Chernigovskaya Oblast)

Area: 16,750 sq. miles

Pop.: 2,935,300 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Chernigov (Pop.: 67,356)

Est. 7 October 1932. Probably formed from certain raions of Kharkov and Kiev Oblasts which were created earlier in the year. Several raions were transferred from Chernigov Oblast to the Sumy Oblast when the latter was created on 10 January 1939.

Chernovitsy Oblast (Chernovitskaya Oblast)

Area: (?)
Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Chernovitsy (Pop.: 110,000, as of December 1940)

Est. August or September 1940. Composed of the northern part of Bukovina, and the Khotin district of Bessarabia.

Dnepropetrovsk Oblast (Dnepropetrovskaya Oblast)

Area: 12,850 sq. miles
Pop.: 3,272,600 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Dnepropetrovsk (Pop.: 500,662)

Est. (originally) 27 February 1932. With the creation of Donetsk Oblast on 17 July 1932, 5 raions were transferred from Dnepropetrovsk Oblast to the Donetsk Oblast. Parts of Dnepropetrovsk Oblast were taken to form the Zaporozhye Oblast on 10 January 1939.

/Donets Oblast (Donetskaya Oblast) 7

Area: 20,200 sq. miles (as of 1 September 1935)
Pop.: 4,074,500 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Stalino (Pop.: 462,395) (Former adm. c.: Artemovsk)

Est. 17 July 1932. Included 17 industrial units formerly directly subordinated to the Ukrainian SSR plus 13 raions from Kharkov Oblast and 5 raions from Dnepropetrovsk Oblast. Abolished 3 June 1938 and its territory divided between Stalino and Voroshilovgrad Oblasts.

The Donetsk Oblast included:

/Starobelsk Okrug (Starobelski Okrug) 7

Area: 5,600 sq. miles (as of 1 September 1935)
Pop.: 531,100 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Starobelsk

Est. 17 November 1935. Absorbed entirely into Voroshilovgrad Oblast, 3 June 1938, losing its identity as an okrug.

Drogobych Oblast (Drogobychskaya Oblast)

Area: 4,500 sq. miles
Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Drogobych (Pop.: 32,000, as of December 1940)

Est. 4 December 1939. Part of territory taken from Poland. (Details in Vedomosti Verkhovnogo Soveta, SSSR, 20 December 1939, p. 3).

Izmail Oblast (Izmailskaya Oblast)

Area: (?)

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Izmail (Pop.: 26,000, as of December 1940)

Est. August or September 1940 as the Akhterman Oblast. Name changed to Izmail on 7 December 1940.

Kamenets-Podolsk Oblast (Kamenets-Podolskaya Oblast)

Area: 7,900 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Proskurov

Est. 22 September 1937. Formerly an Okrug in Vinnytsa Oblast. The administrative center was transferred from Kamenets-Podolsk to Proskurov on 12 May 1941.

Kharkov Oblast (Kharkovskaya Oblast)

Area: 11,700 sq. miles

Pop.: 6,117,400 (as of 1 January 1935)

Adm. c.: Kharkov (Pop.: 835,432)

Est. (originally) 27 February 1932. With the creation of Donets Oblast on 17 July 1932, 13 raions were transferred to it from Kharkov Oblast. A part of Kharkov Oblast was taken to form Poltava Oblast 22 September 1937. Several raions were transferred from Kharkov Oblast to Sumy Oblast when the latter was created on 10 January 1939.

Kiev Oblast (Kievskaya Oblast)

Area: 15,400 sq. miles

Pop.: 6,127,700 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Kiev (Pop.: 846,293)

Est. (originally) 27 February 1932. Zhitomir Okrug split off from Kiev Oblast to form Zhitomir Oblast, 22 September 1937. Some raions were transferred to Kirovograd Oblast on its establishment 10 January 1939.

The Kiev Oblast included:

/Korosten Okrug (Korosten'ski Okrug) 7

Area: 4,100 sq. miles (as of 1 September 1935)

Pop.: 455,800 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Korosten

Est. 1 April 1935. Abolished 22 September 1937.

/Novograd-Volynia Okrug (Novograd-Volyn'ski Okrug) 7

Adm. c. Novograd-Volyn'ski

Est. 1 April 1935. Abolished 22 September 1937.

Zhitomir Okrug (Zhitomirski Okrug)

Area: 1,800 sq. miles (as of 1 September 1935)
Pop.: 288,900 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Zhitomir (Pop.: 95,090)

Est. 29 April 1936. Became an Oblast, 22 September 1937.

Kirovograd Oblast (Kirovogradskaya Oblast)

Area: 9,200 sq. miles
Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Kirovograd (Pop.: 100,331)

Est. 10 January 1939. Formed from parts of the Nikolayev, Odessa, Kiev and Poltava Oblasts.

Lvov Oblast (Lvovskaya Oblast)

Area: 5,150 sq. miles
Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Lvov (Pop.: 310,000, as of December 1940)

Est. 4 December 1939. Part of territory taken from Poland. (Details in Vedomosti Verkhovnogo Soveta SSSR, 20 December 1939, p. 3.)

Nikolayev Oblast (Nikolayevskaya Oblast)

Area: 13,100 sq. miles
Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Nikolayev (Pop.: 137,103)

Est. (originally) 22 September 1937. Formed from part of Odessa Oblast. Parts of Nikolayev Oblast were transferred to Kirovograd and Zaporozhye Oblasts when these were created on 10 January 1939.

Odessa Oblast (Odesskaya Oblast)

Area: 10,400 sq. miles
Pop.: 3,324,900 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Odessa (Pop.: 604,223)

Est. (originally) 27 February 1932. Part split off to form Nikolayev Oblast, 22 September 1937. Parts transferred to the Kirovograd Oblast on its establishment 10 January 1939. Some regions of the former Moldavian ASSR were transferred to Odessa Oblast on 13 August 1940.

Poltava Oblast (Poltavskaya Oblast)

Area: 13,100 sq. miles
Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Poltava (Pop.: 130,305)

Est. (originally 22 September 1937). Formed from parts of Kharkov Oblast. Gave up Lipovo-Dolinski and Bihevski raions to the Sumy Oblast and the Novo-Georgiyev and Onufriyev raions to Kirovograd Oblast when these oblasts were created on 10 January 1939.

Rovno Oblast (Rovenskaya Oblast)

Area: 7,700 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Rovno (Pop.: 40,000, as of December 1940)

Est. 4 December 1939. Part of territory taken from Poland. (Details in Vedomosti Verkhovnogo Soveta SSSR, 20 December 1939, p. 3.)

Stalino Oblast (Stalinskaya Oblast)

Area: 9,800 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Stalino (Pop.: 402,395)

Est. 3 June 1938. Formed from parts of former Donets Oblast.

Stanislav Oblast (Stanislavskaya Oblast)

Area: 5,300 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Stanislav (Pop.: 60,000, as of December 1940)

Est. 4 December 1939. Part of territory taken from Poland. (Details in Vedomosti Verkhovnogo Soveta SSSR, 20 December 1939, p. 3).

Sumy Oblast (Sumskaya Oblast)

Area: 9,350 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Sumy (Pop.: 63,883)

Est. 10 January 1939. Formed from parts of Kharkov, Chernigov and Poltava Oblasts.

Tarnopol Oblast (Tarnopol'skaya Oblast)

Area: 5,050 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Tarnopol (Pop.: 33,000, as of December 1940)

Est. 4 December 1939. Part of territory taken from Poland. (Details in Vedomosti Verkhovnogo Soveta SSSR, 20 December 1939, p. 3).

Vinnitsa Oblast (Vinnitskaya Oblast)

Area: 10,400 sq. miles
Pop.: 4,303,500 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Vinnitsa (Pop.: 92,863)

Est. 27 February 1932. The Kamenets-Podolsk Okrug was detached from Vinnitsa Oblast on 22 September 1937 and became an Oblast.

The Vinnitsa Oblast included:

/Kamenets-Podolsk Okrug (Kamenets-Podolski Okrug) /

Area: 1,300 sq. miles (as of 1 September 1935)
Pop.: 503,100 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Kamenets-Podolsk

Est. 1 April 1935. Became an Oblast, 22 September 1937.

/Mogilev-Podolsk Okrug (Mogilev-Podolski Okrug) /

Area: 1,300 sq. miles (as of 1 September 1935)
Pop.: 355,200 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Mogilev-Podolsk

Est. 1 April 1935. Abolished 22 September 1937.

/Proskurov Okrug (Proskurovski Okrug) /

Area: 1,800 sq. miles (as of 1 September 1935)
Pop.: 541,000 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Proskurov

Est. 1 April 1935. Abolished 22 September 1937.

/Shepetovka Okrug (Shepetovski Okrug) /

Area: 2,500 sq. miles (as of 1 September 1935)
Pop.: 527,600 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Shepetovka

Est. 1 April 1935. Abolished 22 September 1937.

Volynia Oblast (Volynskaya Oblast)

Area: 7,250 sq. miles
Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Lutsk (Pop.: 35,000, as of December 1940)

Est. 4 December 1939. Part of territory taken from Poland. (Details in Vedomosti Verkhovnogo Soveta SSSR, 20 December 1939, p. 3).

Voroshilovgrad Oblast (Voroshilovgradskaya Oblast)

Area: 10,400 sq. miles
Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Voroshilovgrad (Pop.: 213,007)

Est. 3 June 1938. Formed from parts of former Donetsk Oblast.

Zaporozhye Oblast (Zaporozhskaya Oblast)

Area: 12,350 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Zaporozhye (Pop.: 239,188)

Est. 10 January 1939. Formed from parts of the Dnepropetrovsk and Nikolayev Oblasts.

Zhitomir Oblast (Zhitomirskaya Oblast)

Area: 11,350 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Zhitomir (Pop.: 95,090)

Est. 22 September 1957. Formerly an Okrug in Kiev Oblast.

Moldavian ASSR (Moldavskaya ASSR) 7

Area: 3,250 sq. miles

Pop.: 615,500 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Tiraspol

Est. 12 October 1924. Formed from parts of Odessa Guberniya and Podolsk Guberniya. Most of it was united with parts of Bessarabia to form the Moldavian SSR, 2 August 1940. Some regions were transferred (13 August 1940) to Odessa Oblast.

BELORUSSIAN (WHITE RUSSIAN SSR) SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

(Belorusskaya SSR -- BSSR)

Area: 88,150 sq. miles (as of December 1940)

Pop.: 10,400,000 (as of December 1940)

Capital: Minsk (Pop.: 238,772)

Est. 1 January 1919. Incorporated into USSR, 30 December 1922.

In June 1924 the Republic was divided into okrugs and raions. The number of okrugs was reduced from 10 in 1925 to 8 in 1929, and on 23 June 1930 all okrugs were abolished. The raions then remained directly subordinated to the Belorussian Central Executive Committee until 17 July 1935 when four okrugs were again created (Lepel: 2,150 sq. miles; Mozyr: 6,100 sq. miles; Polotsk: 2,800 sq. miles; Slutsk: 2,770 sq. miles).* These remained intact until 15 January 1938, when the division into oblasts was adopted. The Belorussian SSR was enlarged by the addition of former Polish territory on 4 December 1939, the newly acquired territory being organized into 5 oblasti. The total increase in territory was 41,700 sq. miles, and the population acquired numbered almost five million. The boundary with the Lithuanian SSR was fixed on 6 November 1940 (for details see Vedomosti Verkhovnogo Soveta SSSR, 13 November 1940, p. 4.)

Baranovichi Oblast (Baranovichskaya Oblast)

Area: 9,100 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Baranovichi

Est. 4 December 1939. Part of territory taken from Poland. Some parts of Baranovichi Oblast were removed and joined to the Lithuanian SSR in 1940.

Belostok Oblast (Belostokskaya Oblast)

Area: 8,200 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Belostok (Pop.: 90,000, as of December 1940).

Est. 4 December 1939. Part of territory taken from Poland.

Brest Oblast (Brestskaya Oblast)

Area: 6,650 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Brest (Pop.: 50,000, as of December 1940)

Est. 4 December 1939. Part of territory taken from Poland.

Gomel Oblast (Gomelskaya Oblast)

Area: 6,300 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

* Areas as of 1 March 1937

Adm. c.: Gomel (Pop.: 144,169)

Est. 15 January 1938.

Minsk Oblast (Minskaya Oblast)

Area: 11,000 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Minsk (Pop.: 238,772)

Est. 15 January 1938.

Mogilev Oblast (Mogilevskaya Oblast)

Area: 11,000 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Mogilev (Pop.: 99,440)

Est. 15 January 1938.

Pinsk Oblast (Pinskaya Oblast)

Area: 6,200 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Pinsk (Pop.: 30,000 as of December 1940)

Est. 4 December 1939. Part of territory taken from Poland.

Polesye Oblast (Polesskaya Oblast)

Area: 9,900 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Mozyr

Est. 15 January 1938.

Vileika Oblast (Vileiskaya Oblast)

Area: 8,500 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Vileika

Est. 4 December 1939. Part of territory taken from Poland. Some parts of Vileika Oblast were removed and joined to the Lithuanian SSR in 1940.

Vitebsk Oblast (Vitebskaya Oblast)

Area: 10,700 sq. miles

Pop.: (?)

Adm. c.: Vitebsk (Pop.: 167,424)

Est. 15 January 1938.

TRANS-CAUCASIAN SOVIET FEDERATED SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

Zakavkazskaya SFSR

Area: 71,650 sq. miles (as of 1 September 1935)

Pop.: 7,110,800 (as of 1 January 1933)

Capital: Tbilisi (Pop.: 519,175)

Est. 12 March 1922. Joined the USSR 30 December 1922. Abolished 5 December 1936. Included the Armenian SSR, the Azerbaidzhan SSR, and the Georgian SSR (including the Abkhaz SSR united with the Georgian SSR by treaty).

ARMENIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

(Armyanskaya SSR)

Area: 11,550 sq. miles

Pop.: 1,281,599

Capital: Yerevan (Erivan) (Pop.: 200,031)

Est. 29 November 1920. Joined the Trans-Caucasian SFSR 12 March 1922. When the Trans-Caucasian SFSR, which joined the USSR on 30 December 1922, was broken up into its component parts on 5 December 1936, Armenia became an immediate member of the USSR as a Union Republic.

AZERBAIDZHAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

(Azerbaidzhanskaya SSR)

Area: 33,000 sq. miles

Pop.: 3,209,727

Capital: Baku (Pop.: 809,300)

Est. 23 April 1920. Joined the Trans-Caucasian SFSR on 12 March 1922. When the Trans-Caucasian SFSR, which joined the USSR on 30 December 1922, was broken up into its component parts on 5 December 1936, Azerbaidzhan became an immediate member of the USSR as a Union Republic.

The Azerbaidzhan SSR includes:

Nakhichevan ASSR (Nakhichevanskaya ASSR)

Area: 1,950 sq. miles

Pop.: 117,000 (as of 1 January 1933)

Capital: Nakhichevan

Est. in 1925.

Nagorno-Karabakh A.O. (Nagorno-Karabakhskaya A.O.)

Area: 1,700 sq. miles

Pop.: 153,900 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Stepanakert

Est. 6 June 1923.

GEORGIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

(Gruzinskaya SSR)

Area: 26,750 sq. miles

Pop.: 3,542,289

Capital: Tbilisi (Pop.: 519,175)

Est. 25 February 1921. Joined the Trans-Caucasian SFSR (12 March 1922). When the Trans-Caucasian SFSR, which joined the USSR on 30 December 1922, was broken up into its component parts on 5 December 1936 the Georgian SSR became an immediate member of the USSR as a Union Republic.

The Georgian SSR includes:

Abkhazian ASSR (Abkhazskaya ASSR)

Area: 3,350 sq. miles

Pop.: 259,100 (as of 1 January 1933)

Capital: Sukhumi

Est. 3 January 1921, as an SSR. Was joined to the Georgian SSR by treaty and, by virtue of its union with Georgia, was a member of the Trans-Caucasian SFSR. Later (sometime between 1932 and 1935) Abkhazia was changed to an ASSR and included in the Georgian SSR.

Adzhar ASSR (Adzharskaya ASSR)

Area: 1,100 sq. miles

Pop.: 153,800 (as of 1 January 1933)

Capital: Batumi (Pop.: 70,807)

Est. 16 June 1921

South Osetian A.O. (Yugo-Osetinskaya A.O.)

Area: 1,400 sq. miles

Pop.: 95,300 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Stalinir

Est. 23 April 1922.

Note on the Formation of Soviet Republics
in Central Asia

Under the Tsarist government the territory now occupied by the Soviet Republics of Central Asia was organized rather loosely. The steppe region in the north, which today forms the larger part of the Kazakh SSR, was organized in four oblasts, Uralsk, Turgai, Akmolinsk and Semipalatinsk, the last two forming the Government-General (general-gubernatorstv) of the Steppes. The area to the south, commonly referred to as Turkestan included five oblasts, Trans-Caspia, Syr-Darya, Samarkand, and Fergana which were grouped together in the Government-General of Turkestan, and the two vassal states, the Emirate of Bukhara and the Khanate of Khiva.

During and immediately after the Civil War Soviet republics of various types were established. On 26 August 1920 the Kirgiz ASSR was formed as part of the RSFSR; it included most of the area of the four

imperial steppe oblasts. On 14 September 1920 after a local revolution, the former Emirate of Bukhara was proclaimed the Bukhara Peoples' Soviet Republic, ostensibly independent. In April of that year a similar revolt in the Khanate of Khiva had led to the establishment of the nominally independent Khorezm Peoples' Soviet Republic. The rest of Central Asia, roughly the former Government General of Turkestan, was organized as the Turkestan ASSR of the RSFSR on 12 October 1922.

In October 1923 the Khorezm Peoples' Soviet Republic was proclaimed the Khorezm Soviet Socialist Republic and on 19 September 1924 the Bukhara Peoples' Soviet Republic became the Bukhara Soviet Socialist Republic, both having a "treaty" relationship to the RSFSR. This prepared the way for the territorial reshuffling which took place toward the end of 1924, which resulted in the abolition of the Turkestan ASSR, the Bukhara SSR and the Khiva SSR and the formation of two new SSR's, the Uzbek SSR and the Turkmen SSR. The new republics were promptly admitted to the USSR as full Union Republics.

KAZAKH SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC
(Kazakhskaya SSR)

Area: 1,055,850 sq. miles
Pop.: 6,145,937

Capital: Alma-Ata (Pop.: 230,500)

Est. 5 December 1936 when the Kazak ASSR of the RSFSR was promoted to the rank of Union Republic and the spelling changed. Until 15 June 1925 the Kazak ASSR was called the Kirgiz ASSR which was established 26 August 1920 and enlarged in 1924 by the addition of the northern parts of the Trans-Caspian, Syr-Darya and Semirechensk Oblasts, when the Turkestan ASSR was abolished. (See note on the Formation of Soviet Republics in Central Asia).

The Kazakh SSR includes the following oblasts:

Akmolinsk Oblast (Akmolinskaya Oblast)

Area: 58,650 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Akmolinsk

Est. 14 October 1939. Formed from parts of Karaganda and North Kazakhstan Oblasts.

Aktyubinsk Oblast (Aktyubinskaya Oblast)

Area: 118,900 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Aktyubinsk

Est. 10 March 1932. Some parts of the Stepny raion were transferred to Chkalov Oblast, RSFSR, in early summer, 1940.

Alma-Ata Oblast (Alma-Atinskaya Oblast)

Area: 82,350 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Alma-Ata (Pop.: 230,500)

Est. (originally) 10 March 1932.

On 14 October 1939 parts were taken from the Alma-Ata and East Kazakhstan Oblasts to form the Semipalatinsk Oblast, and from the Alma-Ata Oblast and the South Kazakhstan Oblast to form the Dzhambul Oblast.

Dzhambul Oblast (Dzhambulskaya Oblast)

Area: 65,700 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Dzhambul (Pop.: 62,723)

Est. 14 October 1939. Formed from parts of Alma-Ata and South Kazakhstan Oblasts.

East Kazakhstan Oblast (Vostochno-Kazakhstanskaya Oblast)

Area: 38,450 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Ust-Kamenogorsk (until 14 October 1939 the adm. c. was Semipalatinsk).

Est. (originally) 10 March 1932.

On 14 October 1939 ^{the western} part of the East Kazakhstan Oblast (including its adm. c. Semipalatinsk) was detached, together with the northern part of the Alma-Ata Oblast, to form the new Semipalatinsk Oblast.

Guryev Oblast (Guryevskaya Oblast)

Area: 95,600 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Guryev

Est. 15 January 1933. Formerly an Okrug.

Guryev Okrug (Guryevski Okrug)

Area: 85,300 sq. miles (as of 1 September 1935)

Adm. c.: Guryev

Est. 1 July 1933. Became an oblast 15 January 1938.

Karaganda Oblast (Karagandinskaya Oblast)

Area: 164,800 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Karaganda (Pop.: 165,937)

Est. (originally) 10 March 1932. On 14 October 1939 northern border zone detached, together with southern part of the North Kazakhstan Oblast, to form the new Akmolinsk Oblast.

Kustanai Oblast (Kustanaiskaya Oblast)

Area: 75,200 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Kustanai

Est. 20 July 1936, largely from raions of the Aktyubinsk oblast, of which it had previously been an okrug. Some areas of Troitski raion, Chelyabinsk Oblast, RSFSR, were transferred to Kustanai Oblast, Kazakh SSR in the early summer of 1940.

Kzyl-Orda Oblast (Kzyl-Ordinskaya Oblast)

Area: 69,000 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Kzyl-Orda

Est. 15 January 1938, largely from raions of the South Kazakhstan Oblast plus one raion of the Aktyubinsk Oblast.

North Kazakhstan Oblast (Severo-Kazakhstanskaya Oblast)

Area: 32,400 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Petropavlovsk (Pop.: 91,678)

Est. (originally) 20 July 1936, from northern part of Karaganda Oblast. On 14 October 1939 surrendered some cities and raions to form, with additional territory from the Karaganda Oblast, the Akmolinsk Oblast.

Pavlodar Oblast (Pavlodarskaya Oblast)

Area: 53,950 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Pavlodar

Est. 15 January 1938, from raions of East Kazakhstan Oblast.

Semipalatinsk Oblast (Semipalatinskaya Oblast)

Area: 70,300 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Semipalatinsk (Pop.: 109,779)

Est. 14 October 1939. Formed from parts of East Kazakhstan and Alma-Ata Oblasts.

South Kazakhstan Oblast (Yuzhno-Kazakhstanskaya Oblast)

Area: 64,000 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Chimkent (Pop.: 74,185)

Est. (originally) 10 March 1932. On 14 October 1939 it surrendered some territory which, together with territory taken from Alma-Ata Oblast, formed the new Dzhambul Oblast.

West Kazakhstan Oblast (Zapadno-Kazakhstanskaya Oblast)

Area: 60,850 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Uralsk (Pop.: 66,201)

Est. 10 March 1932.

KIRGIZ SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

(Kirgizskaya SSR)

Area: 77,850 sq. miles

Pop.: 1,459,301

Capital: Frunze (Pop.: 92,659)

Est. 5 December 1936. Began as the Kara-Kirgiz A.O. which was formed in October 1924 when the Turkestan ASSR was dissolved. On 27 May 1925

name changed to Kirgiz A.O. Made an ASSR of RSFSR on 1 February 1926. Became Union Republic on 5 December 1936 with adoption of Constitution of that year.

The Kirgiz SSR includes:

Dzhalal-Abad Oblast (Dzhalal-Abadskaya Oblast)

Area: 11,750 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Dzhalal-Abad

Est. 21 November 1939. Formerly an Okrug.

/Dzhalal-Abad Okrug (Dzhalal-Abadski Okrug) /

Adm. c.: Dzhalal-Abad

Est. 26 February 1938. Became an oblast, 21 November 1939.

Frunze Oblast (Frunzenskaya Oblast)

Area: 10,000 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Frunze (Pop.: 92,659)

Est. 21 November 1939.

Issyk-Kul Oblast (Issyk-Kulskaya Oblast)

Area: 13,950 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Przhevalsk

Est. 21 November 1939. Includes territory of the former Okrug of the same name plus the Balykchinsk raion.

/Issyk-Kul Okrug (Issyk-Kulski Okrug) /

Adm. c.: Karakol

Est. 26 February 1938. Abolished 21 November 1939, and its territory with the addition of the Balykchinsk raion became an oblast of the same name.

Osh Oblast (Oshskaya Oblast)

Area: 17,200 sq. miles

Adm. c. Osh

Est. 21 November 1939. Formerly an okrug.

/Osh Okrug (Oshski Okrug) /

Adm. c.: Osh

Est. 26 February 1938. Became an oblast 21 November 1939.

Tyan-Shan Oblast (Tyan-Shanskaya Oblast)

Area: 21,500 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Naryn

Est. 21 November 1939. Formerly an okrug.

Tyan-Shan Okrug (Tyan-Shanski Okrug) 7

Adm. c.: Naryn.

Est. 26 February 1938. Became an oblast on 21 November 1939.

TADZHIK SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

(Tadzhikskaya SSR)

Area: 54,950 sq. miles

Pop.: 1,485,091

Capital: Stalinabad (Pop.: 82,540)

Est. as an SSR, 5 December 1929; incorporated into USSR 5 December 1929.
First established 14 October 1924, as an ASSR in the Uzbek SSR.

The Tadzhik SSR includes:

Garm Oblast (Garmskaya Oblast)

Area: 7,600 sq. miles.

Adm. c.: Garm

Est. 27 October 1939. Previously organized as an okrug (16 March 1938).

Kulyab Oblast (Kulyabskaya Oblast)

Area: 4,100 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Kulyab

Est. 27 October 1939. Previously organized as an okrug (16 March 1938).

Leninabad Oblast (Leninabadskaya Oblast)

Area: 8,900 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Leninabad

Est. 27 October 1939. Previously organized as an okrug (16 March 1938).

Stalinabad Oblast (Stalinabadskaya Oblast)

Area: 8,900 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Stalinabad (Pop. 82,540)

Est. 27 October 1939.

Gorno Badakhshan A.O. (Gorno-Badakhshanskaya A.O.)

Area: 25,800 sq. miles

Pop.: 35,700 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Khorog

Est. in 1927. In the first half of 1933 it was enlarged by the addition of Vanchski Raion.

TURKMEN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

(Turkmenskaya SSR)

Area: 187,150 sq. miles

Pop.: 1,253,985

Capital: Ashkhabad (formerly named Poltoratsk)
(Pop.: 126,580)

Est. and incorporated into the USSR 27 October 1924. Made up of parts of the former Turkestan ASSR and the Bukhara and Khorezm Soviet Socialist Republics.

The Turkmen SSR includes:

Ashkhabad Oblast (Ashkhabadskaya Oblast)

Area: 57,000 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Ashkhabad (Pop.: 126,580)

Est. 21 November 1939.

Chardzhou Oblast (Chardzhouskaya Oblast)

Area: 21,250 sq. miles

Adm. c. Chardzhou (Pop.: 54,739)

Est. 21 November 1939. Made up principally of former Kerki Okrug.

/Kerki Okrug (Kerkinski Okrug) /

Area: 5,550 sq. miles (as of 1 March 1937)

Pop.: 104,200 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Kerki

Est. 23 February 1933. Abolished 21 November 1939 and absorbed into newly created Chardzhou Oblast.

Krasnovodsk Oblast (Krasnovodskaya Oblast)

Area: 49,650 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Krasnovodsk

Est. 21 November 1939

Mary Oblast (Maryiskaya (Mervskaya) Oblast)

Area: 28,100 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Mary

Est. 21 November 1939.

Tashauz Oblast (Tashauzskaya Oblast)

Area: 31,150 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Tashauz

Est. 21 November 1939. Contains all of territory of former Tashauz Okrug, plus additional territory.

Tashauz Okrug (Tashauzski Okrug)

Area: 3,975 sq. miles (as of 1 March 1937)
Pop.: 200,400 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Tashauz

Est. 27 February 1932. Abolished 21 November 1939, and its territory, with some other became Tashauz Oblast.

UZBEK SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC
(Uzbekskaya SSR)

Area: 158,500 sq. miles
Pop.: 6,282,446

Capital: Tashkent (Pop.: 585,000)

Est. and incorporated into USSR 27 October 1924 (final proclamation 5 December 1924). Formed from parts of the former Turkestan ASSR (parts of the Fergana, Syr-Darya and Samarkand oblasts), parts of Bukhara SSR and parts of the Khorezm SSR. (See note on formation of Soviet Republics, etc). Its original capital was Samarkand (until 1930).

The Uzbek SSR includes:

Kara-Kalpak ASSR (Kara-Kalpakskaya ASSR)

Area: 79,650 sq. miles
Pop.: 373,500 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Nukus (formerly the adm. c. was Turtkul)

Est. as an A.O. of the Kazak ASSR 11 May 1925. Became an ASSR of RSFSR 20 March 1932. Transferred to Uzbek SSR 5 December 1936.

Andizhan Oblast (Andizhanskaya Oblast)

Adm. c.: Andizhan (Pop.: 83,691)

Est. 6 March 1941. Formed from parts of Fergana Oblast.

Bukhara Oblast (Bukharskaya Oblast)

Area: 38,400 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Bukhara (Pop.: 50,382)

Est. 15 January 1938. The Surkhan-Darya Okrug split off on 6 March 1941 to become an oblast. On 20 January 1945 the area which before its absorption into Bukhara Oblast in 1938, constituted the independent Kashka-Darya Okrug, split off from Bukhara Oblast and became the Kashka-Darya Oblast.

Surkhan-Darya Okrug (Surkhan-Darinski Okrug)

Area: 7,850 sq. miles
Pop.: 263,300 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Termez

Est. 23 February 1935. Put under the Bukhara Oblast when the latter was created. Became an oblast 6 March 1941.

Fergana Oblast (Ferganskaya Oblast)

Area: 6,500 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Fergana

Est. 15 January 1938. On 6 March 1941 several raions were detached to form the Andizhan Oblast and the Namangan Oblast.

Kashka-Darya Oblast (Kashka-Darinskaya Oblast)

Adm. c.: Karshi

Est. on 20 January 1943. Originally set up as a separate okrug (February 1935), in January 1938 it was attached to the Bukhara Oblast.

Kashka-Darya Okrug (Kashka-Darinski Okrug) 7

Area: 10,975 Sq. Miles (as of 1 March 1937)

Pop.: 366,200 (as of 1 January 1933)

Adm. c.: Bek-Budi

Est. 23 February 1935. Abolished 15 January 1938 and its territory absorbed into Bukhara Oblast. Revived in January 1943 as an oblast.

Khorezm Oblast (Khorezmskaya Oblast)

Area: 1,800 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Urgench

Est. 15 January 1938. Formerly an okrug.

Khorezm Okrug (Khorezmski Okrug) 7

Area: 1,773 sq. miles (as of 1 March 1937)

Pop.: 353,900 (as of 1 January 1933).

Adm. c.: Novo-Urgench

Est. 23 April 1932. Became an oblast, 15 January 1938.

Namangan Oblast (Namanganskaya Oblast)

Adm. c.: Namangan (Pop.: 77,351)

Est. 6 March 1941. Formed from parts of Fergana Oblast.

Samarkand Oblast (Samarkandskaya Oblast)

Area: 10,700 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Samarkand (Pop.: 134,346)

Est. 15 January 1938

Surkhan-Darya Oblast (Surkhan Darinskaya Oblast)

Area: 7,850 sq. miles (as an okrug)

Adm. c.: Termez

Est. 6 March 1941. Formerly an okrug in Bukhara Oblast.

Tashkent Oblast (Tashkentskaya Oblast)

Area: 5,750 sq. miles

Adm. c.: Tashkent (Pop.: 535,000)

Est. 15 January 1938

ESTONIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

(Estonskaya SSR)

Area: 18,350 sq. miles (as of December 1940)

Pop.: 1,120,000 (as of December 1940)

Capital: Tallin (Pop.: 146,000)

Est. 6 August 1940

KARELIAN-FINNISH SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

(Karelo-Finskaya SSR)

Area: 75,700 sq. miles (as of December 1940)

Pop.: Over 500,000 (estimated as of April 1940)

Capital: Petrozavodsk (Pop.: 69,700)

Est. 31 March 1940. Created from the former Karelian ASSR plus most of the territory taken from Finland by the treaty of 12 March 1940. The boundary with the RSFSR was fixed on 8 August 1940 (for details of boundary, see Vedomosti Verkhovnogo Soveta, SSSR, 12 September 1940, p. 1).

LATVIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

(Latviiskaya SSR)

Area: 25,400 sq. miles (as of December 1940)

Pop.: 1,950,000 (as of December 1940)

Capital: Riga (Pop.: 385,000)

Est. 5 August 1940.

LITHUANIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

(Litovskaya SSR)

Area: 25,050 sq. miles (as of December 1940)

Pop.: About 2,880,000 (as of December 1940)

Capital: Vilno (Pop.: 215,000)

Est. 3 August 1940. Its boundary with the White Russian SSR was fixed on 13 November 1940 (for details see Vedomosti Verkhovnogo Soveta SSSR, 13 November 1940, p. 4).

MOLDAVIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

(Moldavskaya SSR)

Area: 13,000 sq. miles (as of December 1940)

Pop.: 2,400,000 (as of December 1940)

Capital: Kishinev (Pop.: 112,100)

Est. 2 August 1940. Includes a part of the former Moldavian ASSR of the Ukrainian SSR plus the major parts of annexed Bessarabia. Its boundary with the Ukrainian SSR was fixed on 4 November 1940 (for details, see Vedomosti Verkhovnogo Soveta SSSR, 13 November 1940.

MILITARY DISTRICTS OF THE USSR

The Soviet Union is divided into military districts, which, as of the end of 1940, were nineteen in number, and were as follows:

| <u>Military District</u> | <u>Headquarters</u> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Special Western | Minsk |
| Odessa | Odessa |
| Central Asiatic | Alma Ata |
| North Caucasus | Rostov |
| Trans-Caucasus | Tbilisi |
| Orel | Orel |
| Siberian | Irkutsk |
| Ural | Sverdlovsk |
| Trans-Baikal | Chita |
| Volga | Kuibyshev |
| Moscow | Moscow |
| Leningrad | Leningrad |
| Kiev | Kiev |
| Kharkov | Kharkov |
| Kalinin | Kalinin |
| First Far Eastern | Vladivostok |
| Second Far Eastern | Khabarovsk |
| Baltic (created in December 1940) | Riga |
| Archangel (created in December 1940) | Archangel |

Source: Scott, John. Duel for Europe, Boston, 1942, p. 209-210.

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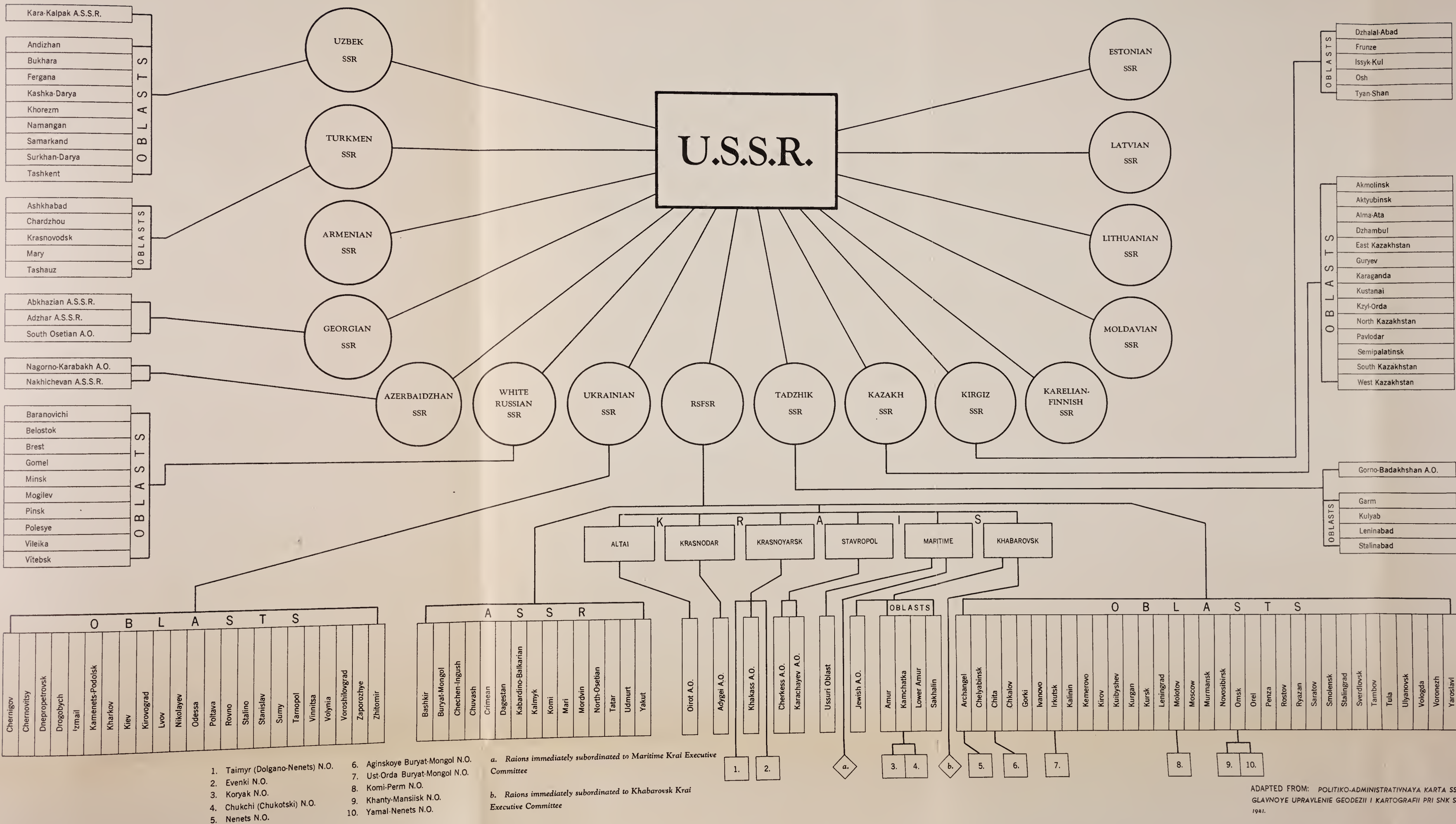
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MAY, 1943



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